

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that less investment is required for these two lines;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to conduct a survey for these railway lines;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Constraint of resources.

SC/ST Employees in Doordarshan/AIR, Madhya Pradesh

4016. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHLE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of employees belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe working in the Doordarshan/AIR Kendras, category-wise and kendra-wise;

(b) whether the reservation policy is not being implemented in these kendras;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the number of posts lying vacant, category-wise and the time by which these are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Introduction of Express Train

4017. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to Introduce Express train from Bhubaneswar/Puri to Delhi via Berhampur-Vizianagaram-Rayagada; and

(b) if so, the time by which the train is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise.

STD/ISD in Tamil Nadu

4018. SHRI A.G.S. RAM BABU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications for setting up of PCO's have STD/ISD facilities pending clearance in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) the time by which the applications are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Number of applications for STD PCOs pending in Tamil Nadu are 6829.

(b) These applications will be processed by 31st March, 1997. The PCOs will be provided during the next financial year i.e. 1997-98.

Telephone Connections Provided in Andhra Pradesh

4019. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephone connections provided in Andhra Pradesh during the last six months, District-wise;

(b) the number of telephone connections disconnected in the rural areas of Andhra Pradesh, District-wise;

(c) the details and reasons of disconnections;

(d) whether the Government propose to provide/install tower type telephone connections in A.P. particularly in Guntur District; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) 56,366 telephone connections were provided during the last six months (June to November '96). District-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) and (c). 831 telephone connections were disconnected in the rural areas of Andhra Pradesh. District-wise details and reasons for disconnections are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) In Andhra Pradesh 8,488 nos. of village public telephones using MARR (tower type) were provided up to 30.11.96. In Guntur district there are 1019 villages, out of which 400 nos. have been provided with tower type telephones and the remaining 619 villages have been provided telephone connections on other media.

STATEMENT-I

S.No.	Name of District	DEs provided from June '96 to November '96
1.	Adilabad	1233
2.	Ananthapur	1727
3.	Chittoor	3445
4.	Cuddapah	1508
5.	East Godavari	4802
6.	Guntur	3053
7.	Hyderabad	19343
8.	Karimnagar	907
9.	Khammam	1195
10.	Krishna	5886
11.	Kurnool	1296
12.	Mahaboobnagar	1050
13.	Nalgonda	1242
14.	Nellore	395
15.	Nizamabad	645
16.	Prakasham	615
17.	Sangareddy	1589
18.	Srikakulam	1223
19.	Visakhapatnam	2235
20.	Vizianagaram	616
21.	Warangal	903
22.	West Godavari	1458
Total :		56366

STATEMENT-II

Telephone Connections Disconnected in the Rural Areas of Andhra Pradesh District-wise

S.No.	District	Subs. Reasons	Non- Payment of Dues	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Adilabad	Nil	2	2
2.	Ananthapur	24	12	36
3.	Chittoor	1	8	9
4.	Cuddapah	6	14	20
5.	East Godavari	4	42	47
6.	Guntur	Nil	126	126

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Hyd.Tel.Dist. and Rangareddy	2	24	26
8.	Karimnagar	Nil	46	46
9.	Khammam	2	14	16
10.	Krishna	Nil	94	94
11.	Kurnool	16	65	81
12.	Mahaboobnagar	Nil	111	111
13.	Medak	Nil	30	30
14.	Nalgonda	Nil	19	19
15.	Nellore	21	22	43
16.	Nizamabad	Nil	2	2
17.	Prakasham	Nil	12	12
18.	Srikakulam	Nil	25	25
19.	Visakhapatnam	Nil	49	49
20.	Vizianagaram	2	12	14
21.	Warangal	7	4	11
22.	West Godavari	5	8	13
		90	741	831

Nationalisation of Mines in Orissa

4020. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Orissa is the richest State in terms of mineral wealth;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose for proper exploration of mineral or nationalise the mines of Orissa; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) and (b). As per information available, Orissa has large reserves of minerals like iron ore, manganese ore, bauxite, limestone, dolomite, chromite, fireclay, graphite, rare earth, semi-precious stones, etc.

(c) and (d). Exploration agencies like Mineral Exploration Corporation, Geological Survey of India, Coal India Ltd., Steel Authority of India Ltd., National Aluminium Company Ltd., Orissa Mining Corporation, and State Undertakings of Orissa, etc. are already engaged in exploration for various minerals in the State. There is no proposal to nationalise the exploration of mineral wealth in Orissa. Mineral Concessions for exploration and exploitation are granted by the State Government as per the provisions of Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957 and rules made thereunder.